

## REMARKS

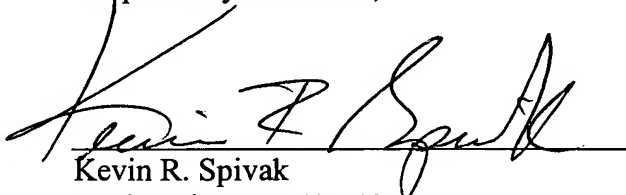
Amendments to the specification have been made and are submitted herewith in the attached Substitute Specification. A clean copy of the specification and a marked-up version showing the changes made are attached herewith. The claims and abstract have been amended in the attached Preliminary Amendment. All amendments have been made to place the application in proper U.S. format and to conform with proper grammatical and idiomatic English. None of the amendments herein are made for reasons related to patentability. No new matter has been added.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made".

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing docket no. 449122019800. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: April 8, 2002

  
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## **VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**

For the convenience of the Examiner, the changes made are shown below with deleted text in strikethrough and added text in underline.

### **In the Specification:**

Please replace the Title with the following rewritten Title as follows:

## **METHOD OF DEVELOPING A PRODUCT WHILE ~~TAKING INTO~~ ~~CONSIDERATION~~ CONSIDERING QUALITY FEATURES OF THE PRODUCT ~~TO BE~~ ESTABLISHED**

### **In the Claims:**

Patent claims **What is claimed is:**

1. (Amended) A method of developing a product, ~~while taking into consideration quality features of the product to be established, in which method~~ **comprising:**

**establishing** characteristic sales values which relate at least to the intended sales region ~~are established for the product (20) to be developed;~~

~~the~~ **establishing** characteristic product quality values to be satisfied by the product(20) ~~are established, consideration being given to the regulations and guidelines arising from the characteristic sales values;~~

**defining** at least two components (22 to 30) **configured for inclusion** which are to be included in the product (20) ~~are defined for the product(20);~~

~~in a test procedure it is checked for~~ **checking** each component (22 to 30) **to determine** whether the established characteristic product quality values are achieved by the characteristic component quality values determined for ~~this~~ **each** component(22 to 30) ~~even when this component (22 to 30) is combined with the further component (22 to 30, and;~~ **and**

~~in which,~~ if the result of the test **check** is negative, ~~the~~ **each** component (22 to 30) is modified and the test **check** procedure is repeated, with the modified characteristic component quality values being used as the characteristic component quality values.

2. (Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the characteristic product quality values are determined from the possibly modified characteristic component quality values using ~~a method of~~ an evaluation, with the evaluation including at least one of empirical estimating methods, mathematical models and simulation methods ~~preferably being used as methods of evaluation.~~
3. (Amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims,~~ characterized in that claim 1, wherein the current characteristic product quality values are determined by direct measuring and/or testing on the product.
4. (Amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims,~~ characterized in that claim 1, wherein the components are hardware components (22, 24, 26) and/or software components(28, 30).
5. (Amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims,~~ characterized in that claim 1, wherein characteristic quality variables of possible manufacturers of the individual components (22 to 30) ~~are also taken into consideration~~ components are considered in the definition of the components(22 to 30).
6. (Amended) The method as claimed in claim 5, ~~characterized in that the~~ wherein performance capability, ~~the~~ commercial situation and/or ~~the~~ quality of manufactured products are assessed to establish the characteristic quality variables of a manufacturer.
7. (Amended) The method as claimed in claim 6, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the assessment is ~~carried out with the aid of~~ performed using a questionnaire, which ~~also contains~~ includes information on the established characteristic product quality values, ~~in that it is also taken into consideration to what extent there are possibilities for tests which adequately demonstrate that the established characteristic product quality values are met.~~

Please cancel claim 8.

9. (Amended) The method as claimed in claim 8, ~~characterized in that~~ **5, wherein** the manufacturer surrenders to ~~the~~ **a** commissioning agent documentation on the determined characteristic component quality values and/or characteristic product quality values and allows such ~~the~~ documentation to be passed on to third parties, ~~in particular to final customers.~~

10. (Amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of claims 5 to 9, characterized in that the possible~~ **claim 5, wherein the** manufacturer of the component ~~(22 to 30)~~ names at least one contact who will be available during the determination of characteristic product quality values and, ~~if need be,~~ at least provide support for the determination of the characteristic product quality values in subsequent testing and modification of the component~~(22 to 30).~~

11. (Amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of claims 1 to 10, characterized in that it is taken into consideration~~ **claim 1, wherein** during the definition of the components ~~(22 to 30)~~ and/or when establishing the possible manufacturers **there is consideration** that there are at least two manufacturers who can manufacture the respective component~~(22 to 30).~~

12. (Amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the product (20)~~ **claim 1, wherein the product** includes components ~~(22 to 30)~~ which have been manufactured by at least two manufacturers, and ~~in that~~ a manufacturer responsible for meeting the established characteristic product quality values is established.

13. (Amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims, characterized in that all~~ **claim 1, wherein** the determined characteristic quality values are confirmed by an accredited test laboratory.

14. (Amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims, characterized in that it is contractually agreed~~ **claim 1, wherein contractual agreement is made** with the manufacturers of the respective component ~~(22 to 30)~~ that the established characteristic product quality values will be met and/or characteristic component quality values which arise for the respective component from the characteristic product quality values will be met.

15. (Amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ **claim 1, wherein if it is determined that the individual components satisfy the established characteristic product quality values and that the components do not influence one another,** the characteristic product quality values are not determined by direct measurement and/or testing ~~if it is not only the case that the individual components (72 to 78) satisfy the established characteristic product quality values but it is also unlikely that the components (72 to 78) will influence one another.~~

16. (Amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ **claim 1, wherein** the characteristic sales values take into consideration the target market, intended sales countries and/or possible customers.

17. (Amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims, characterized in that a component (22 to 30), in particular a subassembly, contains~~ **claim 1, wherein a component, includes** a number of subcomponents.

18. (Amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims, characterized in that,~~ **claim 1, wherein** when establishing the characteristic quality values, characteristic values for CE marking, for UL approval, for NEBS approval, country-specific standards, ~~in particular on earthquake safety,~~ on the permissible fire load and on electromagnetic compatibility, and/or special customer requirements ~~(14)~~ for characteristic quality values are taken into consideration.

19. (Amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ **claim 1, wherein** the characteristic product quality values determined and/or arising for the product from the characteristic component quality values are archived and/or certificates showing that the characteristic product quality values are met are produced.

**In the Abstract:**

Please replace the Abstract with the substitute Abstract attached hereto.